



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
PRESS RELEASE

Ethics Commission

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CONTACT:
Stacey Fulhorst
San Diego Ethics Commission
(619) 533-3476

**ETHICS COMMISSION ANNOUNCES SETTLEMENT WITH
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS
CONCERNING LATE REPORTING OF INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE**

Stacey Fulhorst, Executive Director of the City of San Diego Ethics Commission, announced today the Commission's approval of a stipulated settlement agreement with the International Association of Firefighters FIREPAC. The Committee has agreed to pay a fine of \$1,500 for failing to timely report an independent expenditure it made in connection with the November 4, 2008, election for City Attorney.

The Committee made an independent expenditure on October 20, 2008, in the amount of \$25,105 for radio advertising in support of Jan Goldsmith, a candidate for San Diego City Attorney. Under local and state law, the Committee was required to file a disclosure report with the City Clerk reflecting this independent expenditure within 24 hours; however, the Committee did not file a disclosure report with the City Clerk until October 28, 2008, one week late.

According to the Commission Chairman, Richard Valdez, "Compliance with filing deadlines, particularly in the period just before an election, is an important requirement of the City's campaign laws because it ensures the public's access to relevant and timely information about individuals and entities that are spending money to support City candidates." He added, however, that a substantial factor in mitigation considered by the Ethics Commission was the fact that the disclosure report was filed before the November 4 election.

Ethics Commission fines are paid to the City of San Diego's General Fund. The stipulated settlements approved by the Commission resolve all factual and legal issues without the necessity of holding an administrative hearing.

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